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ITEM NO: 1 DATE: 11 JAN 74

SUBJECT: EGYPT'S HAYKAL DISCUSSES ALLEGED DISENGAGEMENT PLAN

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AL AHRAM EDITOR MUHAMMAD HASANAYN HAYKAL DEVOTED HIS WEEKLY ARTICLE TODAY TO A DISENGAGEMENT PROPOSAL THAT HE CLAIMS ISRAELI DEFENSE MINISTER DAYAN AND SECRETARY KISSINGER AGREED ON LAST WEEKEND. WITHOUT CRITICIZING THE US, AND WITHOUT SPECIFICALLY REJECTING THE ALLEGED "PROPOSAL," HAYKAL DENOUNCES WHAT HE CALLS ISRAEL'S STRATEGY FOR ACHIEVING A PARTIAL SOLUTION THAT WILL DIVIDE THE ARAB WORLD AND DEPRIVE EGYPT OF ANY OF THE FRUITS OF ITS MILITARY SUCCESS.

HAYKAL ATTRIBUTES TO DAYAN A PLAN THAT WOULD MOVE ISRAELI FORCES CLOSER TO THE SINAI PASSES, LEAVE ABLIGHTLY ARMED EGYPTIAN

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FORCE IN A "STRIP" ON THE EAST BANK, AND PLACE A UN FORCE BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES. HE PRESENTS THE PLAN AS A DEFINITE PROPOSAL RATHER THAN AS THE INDEFINITE GUIDELINES THE ISRAELIS HAVE PUT FORTH.

HAYKAL ASSUMES A US-ISRAELI AGREEMENT ON DISENGAGEMENT AND CRITICIZES DAYAN, BUT NOT THE US, FOR IGNORING THE PROPER CHANNELS AT GENEVA AND TAKING ISRAEL'S CASE TO THE US. THE CHIEF CRITICISM, HOWEVER--AND ONE THAT IS PROBABLY REFLECTIVE OF GENUINE MISGIVINGS AMONG THE EGYPTIAN LEADERSHIP--IS THAT ANY DISENGAGEMENT ARRANGEMENT WILL CONSTITUTE THE LAST RATHER THAN THE FIRST STAGE OF AN ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL.

HAYKAL USES THE PHRASE "PARTIAL SOLUTION" TO DESCRIBE THE PLAN, AND, IN PLACING THE EMPHASIS ON "SOLUTION" RATHER THAN ON "PARTIAL," REFLECTS A FEAR THAT EMERGED DURING THE INTERIM AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS THREE YEARS AGO THAT ANY INTERIM ARRANGEMENT WOULD IN THE END BE THE FINAL SETTLEMENT. HIS FRANK REMARKS ON DIVISION IN ARAB RANKS INDICATE A FEAR OF THE CRITICISM EGYPT WILL RECEIVE FROM ITS NEIGHBORS IF IT AGREES TO A DISENGAGEMENT THAT DOES NOT CLEARLY OFFER PROMISE OF FURTHER MOVEMENT.

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HAYKAL HAS SHOWN CONSIDERABLY MORE SKEPTICISM ABOUT US GOOD-WILL AND ABOUT THE NEGOTIATIONS IN GENERAL THAN HAS BEEN EVIDENT IN PRESIDENT SADAT'S ACTIONS IN ACCEPTING THE CEASE-FIRE, AGREEING TO THE SIX-POINT ACCORD, AND POSTPONING THE DISENGAGEMENT TALKS. THE JOURNALIST DOES NOT IN ANY CASE REJECT THE PLAN ITSELF SO MUCH AS THE AURA OF FINALITY WHICH HE ATTRIBUTES TO IT. TO THIS EXTENT, HIS REMARKS PROBABLY REFLECT SADAT'S THINKING AND MAY BE AN INDICATION THAT SADAT WILL SEEK FROM SECRETARY KISSINGER SOME ASSURANCES THAT FURTHER WITHDRAWALS ARE IN PROSPECT. HAYKAL'S REMARKS ARE NOT NECESSARILY AN INDICATION, HOWEVER, THAT SADAT WILL GIVE SECRETARY KISSINGER A HARD TIME ON THE SPECIFICS OF DISENGAGEMENT LINES.

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